

**278.704 Merchant electric generating facility -- Construction certificate -- Location of exhaust stack -- Setback requirement.**

- (1) No person shall commence to construct a merchant electric generating facility until that person has applied for and obtained a construction certificate for the facility from the board. The construction certificate shall be valid for a period of two (2) years after the issuance date of the last permit required to be obtained from the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet after which the certificate shall be void. The certificate shall be conditioned upon the applicant obtaining necessary air, water, and waste permits. If an applicant has not obtained all necessary permits and has not commenced to construct prior to the expiration date of the certificate, the applicant shall be required to obtain a valid certificate from the board.
- (2) Except as provided in subsections (3), (4), and (5) of this section, no person shall commence to construct a merchant electric generating facility unless the exhaust stack of the proposed facility is at least one thousand (1,000) feet from the property boundary of any adjoining property owner and two thousand (2,000) feet from any residential neighborhood, school, hospital, or nursing home facility.
- (3) If the merchant electric generating facility is proposed to be located in a county or a municipality with planning and zoning, then setback requirements from a residential neighborhood, school, hospital, or nursing home facility may be established by the planning and zoning commission. Any setback established by a planning and zoning commission for a facility in an area over which it has jurisdiction shall:
  - (a) Have primacy over the setback requirement in subsections (2) and (5) of this section; and
  - (b) Not be subject to modification or waiver by the board through a request for deviation by the applicant, as provided in subsection (4) of this section.
- (4) The board may grant a deviation from the requirements of subsection (2) of this section on a finding that the proposed facility is designed and located to meet the goals of KRS 224.10-280, 278.010, 278.212, 278.214, 278.216, 278.218, and 278.700 to 278.716 at a distance closer than those provided in subsection (2) of this section.
- (5) If the merchant electric generating facility is proposed to be located on a site of a former coal processing plant in the Commonwealth where the electric generating facility will utilize on-site waste coal as a fuel source, then the one thousand (1,000) foot property boundary requirement in subsection (2) of this section shall not be applicable; however, the applicant shall be required to meet any other setback requirements contained in subsection (2) of this section.

**Effective:** April 24, 2002

**History:** Created 2002 Ky. Acts ch. 365, sec. 3, effective April 24, 2002.

**Legislative Research Commission Note** (6/20/2005). 2005 Ky. Acts chs. 11, 85, 95, 97, 98, 99, 123, and 181 instruct the Reviser of Statutes to correct statutory references to agencies and officers whose names have been changed in 2005 legislation confirming the reorganization of the executive branch. Such a correction has been made in this section.